

Amendments

1. (Currently Amended) A crystal form of nateglinide having a melting point of about 108°C; or solvates thereof obtained by a process comprising:

dissolving nateglinide in any of its forms in a first solvent in which nateglinide is readily soluble at an ambient temperature to form a solution;

treating the solution with a second solvent which is miscible with the first solvent, and in which nateglinide is only poorly soluble to induce precipitation of crystals of nateglinide, wherein the second solvent is water containing hydroxypropylmethylcellulose; and

isolating and drying the precipitated crystal form of nateglinide.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for the production of crystal form of ~~claim 1~~ nateglinide, comprising; wherein the method comprises;

(a) dissolving nateglinide in any of its forms in a first solvent in which nateglinide is readily soluble at an ambient temperature to form a solution;

(b) treating the solution with a second solvent which is miscible with the first solvent, and in which nateglinide is only poorly soluble to induce precipitation of crystals of ~~claim 1~~ nateglinide, wherein the second solvent is water containing hydroxypropylmethylcellulose; and

(c) isolating and drying the precipitated crystal form of ~~claim 1~~ nateglinide.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the precipitation of the crystal form of ~~claim 1~~ nateglinide is induced by stirring, cooling or by adding seed crystals of nateglinide.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the ambient temperature ranges from room temperature to the boiling point of the solvent.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the crystal form of ~~claim 1~~ nateglinide is dried under atmospheric or reduced pressure at a temperature ranging from room temperature to 70°C.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first solvent is a mixture of ethanol and toluene;

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 ~~2~~, wherein the first solvent contains 50% of ethanol by volume; the second solvent contains 1% of hydroxypropylmethylcellulose; and the ratio of the first solvent to the second solvent is 1 to 7 by volume.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the ambient temperature is room temperature; and the crystal form of ~~claim 1~~ nateglinide is dried under reduced pressure at a temperature ranging from room temperature to 50°C.

10. (New) The crystal form of nateglinide according to claim 1, wherein in the process steps the first solvent contains 50% of ethanol by volume; the second solvent contains 1% of hydroxypropylmethylcellulose; and the ratio of the first solvent to the second solvent is 1 to 7 by volume.

11. (New) The crystal form of nateglinide according to claim 10, wherein in the process steps the ambient temperature is room temperature; and the crystal form of nateglinide is dried under reduced pressure at a temperature ranging from room temperature to 50°C.